

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
COUNCIL

SUMMATION OF MINUTES  
TUESDAY DECEMBER 4, 2007

I. **Introduction and Comments**

Members present:

Duane Busick

Jesse Strycker

Carl Zager

Suzann Owen

Eric Ost came in after roll call

Others present:

Justin Goodwin

Joe Hren

Rick Dietz

**Public:**

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Busick motioned to approve the November 13, 2007 minutes. Owen moved to approve the minutes as written with a few minor corrections she would let Justin know about after the meeting. Minutes approved 4-0-1.

**Old Business**

III.

IV. **Public Comment**

## **Reports and Announcements**

### **A.) BTC Members**

Owen stated that at the present time the FCC is dealing with matters of ownership, which is something the TCC does not deal with, but the FCC did pass over the option for ala carte cable and the forcing of some carriage of the NFL Network. The FCC is requesting a report from national cable systems to see if there is 70% of the country that are cable subscribers that will be affected by changes in the franchise agreement. If there is less than 70% than ownership questions arise.

Owen stated that there has been news about the emergency alert system. Owen stated that the federal government does not require the carriage of the emergency alert system on the local level. The press release stated that the FCC has outlined protocol for national emergency alerts provided by all video service providers and that the alerts are to remain available at the national level but this does not cover alerts at the local level.

Zager stated that he received a phone call from the Mayor's office regarding a citizen complaint through Insight. The citizen stated that Insight sent them to the Mayor's office and in turn the Mayor's office sent them to him; which surprised Zager since there is no longer a franchise agreement with Insight and the City of Bloomington. Zager let the customer know that Insight referred them incorrectly.

Zager stated that there have been some tests on the emergency alert system that have been ran periodically and at odd times other than the normal Friday morning. Zager phoned Jeff Schemmer and asked him if he was aware of these other alerts being sent out and Mr. Schemmer was unaware of these extra alerts and told Zager that they had not sent any other alerts out other than Friday's and also Monday's in the early AM. Mr. Schemmer told Zager that the Indiana Association of Broadcasters oversees the override messages and they state that each alert has to be noted as a test on each broadcast so that the customer knows it is not an actual emergency.

Busick stated that the council meeting dates have changed for November 2008 and the council will be meeting November 18, 2008 instead of November 4, 2008 due to Election Day and Veteran's Day.

### **B.) WTIU2**

#### **The report is in the official record.**

Mr. Hren was filling in for O'Neill. Mr. Hren presented the report to the council.

Strycker asked Mr. Hren about the break down of the digital television information in the brochure and wanted to let him know it was a tremendous help to the community to have this included and also wanted to know if this was a permanent thing. Mr. Hren stated that yes it will be a permanent thing that will continually be updated.

### **C.) CATS**

#### **The report is in the official record.**

Mr. White presented the report to the council. White stated that there was a back feed line problem that turned out to be a surge near the Chocolate Moose on South Walnut Street and has been corrected. Insight came and repaired this problem.

White wanted to say thanks to Insight for their assistance in getting this repaired for CATS.

Busick wanted to comment on the number of streaming server hits each month of about 15,000 and this seems like an incredibly sized audience. White stated that they have had an audience of over 100,000 for 2007, which is amazing.

Owen asked if CATS has heard anything new regarding the new video service providers. White stated there have been no requests nor any forms of communication.

#### **D.) Bloomington Digital Underground**

Rick Dietz was present.

Dietz stated that at the next BDU meeting on December 6, 2007 the main topic of discussion will be the FCC grant that the State of Indiana has received for the purpose of eHealth Initiative. This will be a network for local and statewide information of health networks. Dietz stated that he thinks that this grant will greatly benefit the community but will greatly benefit rural areas that do not have high speed or fiber optic lines.

Busick asked Dietz what has happened with the IURC and any communication. Dietz stated that the proposal that AT&T has brought forward with the franchise is still not adequate and hopefully the communication with the IURC will have an effect on this problem.

Ost stated that he would like to get the franchise amounts that have been paid to the State and since AT&T is still trying to get customers he believes the revenue will show as being down a little and in turn the franchise check will be smaller.

#### **E.) Insight Communications**

No one from Insight was present.

#### **F.) AT&T**

No one from AT&T was present.

### **III. Old Business**

#### **A.) The role of the BTC.**

### **IV. New Business**

### **V. Adjournment**

The next official meeting of the Telecommunications Council is set for Tuesday January 8, 2008 at 7:30 in the City Council Chambers